

**TOP SECRET/EYES ONLY**

**April 26, 1972**

**MEMORANDUM FOR**

**Theodore L. Elliot, Executive Secretary,  
Department of State**

**Attached per our conversation are talking points with the foreign  
Ambassadors with regard to the President's Vietnam speech tonight.**

**Alexander M. Haig, Jr.  
Major General, U.S. Army  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
for National Security Affairs**

**Attachment**

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

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TALKING POINTS

1. The President has asked me to give you, for your government's information, the highlights of his Vietnam speech tonight at 10:00 p.m. Washington time.

2. The President will reiterate the strong U.S. support for the South Vietnamese efforts to defend themselves against the North Vietnamese invasion. He will trace the North Vietnamese refusal to respond to our negotiating proposals, their escalation on the battlefield, the effective South Vietnamese response, and our view that the enemy will fail in its objectives in the face of the South Vietnamese performance, aided by our air and sea support.

3. He will then announce three decisions:

-- The continued success of Vietnamization allows the withdrawal of another 20,000 Americans by July 1 without detriment to South Vietnam's survival. President Thieu fully concurs.

-- -- We are returning to the Paris talks but not to hear the usual propaganda. As far as we are concerned, the first order of business will be to get the enemy to halt his invasion.

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-- U.S. air and naval attacks on military installations  
in North Vietnam will continue until the North  
Vietnamese stop their offensive in South Vietnam.

4. You will understand the absolute requirement to keep this  
information confidential until the President speaks.

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